



**MONTHLY
BIBLE STORY**

Light of the World
MATTHEW 5:1-2, 14-16

BIBLE WORDS

"Let your light shine."
MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

BOTTOM LINE

You can do what Jesus says.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be
my friend forever.

The toddler curriculum provides one monthly Bible story because we understand that toddlers learn best through repetition. The toddler curriculum provides older toddlers with the story and craft element that some are ready to experience before they enter the twos. We hope that by sending home a simple toddler craft you are cueing families to begin having conversations at home with their children.

STORY TIME:

- Draw It

CRAFT TIME:

- Shine Door Hanger
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STORY TIME

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some children (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

WHAT YOU NEED: Preschool Bible, butcher paper, and markers in a variety of colors

LEADER: "Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. Come join me on the floor. Today's true story from the Bible (*hold up the Bible*) begins when Jesus told His friends, the disciples, (*draw a stick man Jesus and several simple stick men around him*) 'You are the light of the world!' (*Draw yellow rays of light around the picture.*) You can be a light too." (*Say each child's name as you draw them as a smiley face. Draw yellow rays of light around all the children.*)

"When you are kind, (*start drawing a heart around the smiley faces*) when you forgive, when you share, and when you help, (*complete the heart*) your light shines and people can see that Jesus is kind, Jesus forgives, Jesus helps, and Jesus shares. When you do what Jesus says, you shine your light so people can see that Jesus loves them and wants to be their friend forever. YOU can do that! **You can do what Jesus says.**"



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CRAFT TIME

Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That's okay. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Shine Door Hanger" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, dot markers, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Shine Door Hanger" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to decorate their door hangers with markers. Clean hands as needed.

WHAT YOU SAY:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look at your paper! What a neat door hanger! It looks like a flashlight with a heart shining out of it! Use the markers to decorate your paper. (Pause.) Fantastic! When we do what Jesus says, we shine our light for others to know Jesus! Jesus loves us and wants to be our friend forever. You can shine every day! **You can do what Jesus says.**"